

**AN**

Nonēber habet die<sup>s</sup>  
xxi. luna xxx.

**d** Festum oīz scōrū.  
**xiii** **e** Cōmemoratio defūc.

**ii** **f**

**x** **a** Vitalis & Agricole  
**b**

**xviii** **c** Leonardi confes.

**vii** **d** Prothasii e. pad.

**xv** **e**  
**f** Dedicatio saluatoris.

**iiii** **a**

Joānis epi.

**xii** **b**

**i** **c**



d

ix. c

f

ebng

vi a

Elisabeth.

b

viii c

Dauid abb. m.

vi d

Cecilie virgi.

e

Clementis pp.

xi f

Eusebii mris.

xix g

Catherine vir.

a

Petri alexan.

iii b

c

vi d

Saturnini. Vig.

ix e

Andree apli.



## MEDIEVAL BOOK OF HOURS CALENDAR LEAF, c. 1470 - NOVEMBER

**IM-7974:** (96 x 70mm) Original leaf from a medieval manuscript *Book of Hours*. 16 lines of text, ruled in violet, written in Latin with dark brown ink on animal vellum. Major feast days in **red** (origin of term 'red-letter day'). Large "KL" initials (for KALENDAS) are in deep blue with delicate red penwork. **Northern Italy (probably Ferrara), c. 1470.**

The colorful initials are characteristic of Ferrarese illumination of the 1470's – especially the work of Guglielmo Giraldi (Ref: Toniolo, *La miniature a Ferrara* (1998), pp. 214-223). The precise & elegant penwork flourishing is also represented in manuscripts of that workshop & similar to the ornamentation found in the pattern book of Guinfortus de Vicomercato (Ref: J. G. Alexander, *The Painted Page*, London 1994, p. 109).

Among the feasts listed are **St. Elizabeth** (19<sup>th</sup>), **St. Maurice** (22<sup>nd</sup>), **St. Catherine of Alexandria** (25<sup>th</sup> – Patron Saint of Preachers and Philosophers) and **St. Andrew** (30<sup>th</sup> – Patron Saint of Scotland and Weddings).

Left of the saints' days are repeating letters *A - G* called **Dominical Letters** since they help find Sundays. Far left is a column of Roman numerals *i - xix* called **Golden Numbers** to indicate appearances of new moons, & counting ahead 14 days, full moons throughout the year (year + 1; divide by 19; remainder is Golden Number - if zero GN = 19). Finally: each month had 3 fixed points: Kalends (1<sup>st</sup> day) Ides (middle) & Nones (9<sup>th</sup> day before Ides). All days in between were counted **backwards** from these points.